



Recon again on the hunt for Marines not afraid to get down and dirty. See photos and story, Page 8.

September 1, 2000

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

<http://okinawa.mcbbutler.usmc.mil>

Sergeants Major address Corps' issues

Sgt. John Sayas

MCB Quantico, Va.

MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va. — The annual Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Symposium concluded Aug. 15, ending a week of round-table discussions on the commandant of the Marine Corps' vision and other issues affecting Marines.

The symposium was the first hosted here, and was attended by 40 sergeants major from the Corps' most senior enlisted leadership billets, including the sergeant major of the Marine Corps. The Marines looked at as many as 80 agenda items on issues such as uniform changes, retention, drill, duty allowances and safety.

Although there were many topics to discuss, the pace of the symposium moved along quite easily using the Executive Decision Room. It's computer system is similar to the one used previously by Marines who attended the Noncommissioned Officer Symposium earlier this year.

The system allowed the sergeants major to review agenda items entered into a database prior to the symposium according to occupational specialty. This prevented them from wasting time on issues already taken care of by action officers assigned to the tasks and gave added time for thorough group discussions on other important issues.

"It's probably the best symposium I've attended," said SgtMaj. Marc L. Ouellette, Headquarters Marine Corps, Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Ouellette said he has attended several sergeant major symposiums but none as sophisticated as this one.

"The use of the computer allowed us to weed out which ones were real important issues that should be raised to the commandant's attention," he said. "We were able to move a whole lot faster than we have in the past. The action officers can tell us what's going on with an issue. And if it's already being addressed, then there's no sense for it to sit here and be addressed to the commandant."

The sergeants major put together



STEVE BOHNSTEDT

SgtMaj. Filipino Ilaoa, sergeant major, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, listens to discussions regarding current Marine Corps issues during a recent sergeants major symposium. Recommendations proposed to the Commandant of the Marine Corps could potentially impact both officer and enlisted Marines.

recommendations during group discussions for the more important issues and briefed Gen. James L. Jones, commandant of the Marine Corps, at the conclusion of the symposium.

Agenda items and recommendations included the following:

- Standardizing drill manual for drill and ceremony manuals
- Reenlistment bonuses for every Marine including increased uniform incentives, points towards promotion, school seats and permissive temporary assigned duty
- Dislocation allowance for Marines transferring to reserve status or retiring
- Flat-rate per diem for enlisted and officers on unit deployment assignments
- Creating an operational career plan-ner force

- Ensuring fitness report copy is given to Marine reported on

- Adding recognition to current safety education program, awards

The issues brought to the commandant's attention will be reviewed over the next several months. Some of the items may not have an immediate, or any, effect on the Marines, but others such as safety are expected to have greater impact due to the application in saving Marine lives.

Along with the sergeant major symposium, a spouses' symposium, held simultaneously, focused on topics from a spouse's standpoint. The senior enlisted wives brought to the commandant's attention issues pertaining to spouses' roles and responsibilities, retirement and family issues.

Pay raise approved

2001 budget also includes housing allowance increase

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Clinton signed the fiscal 2001 Defense Appropriations Act, paving the way for a 3.7 percent pay raise for service members Jan. 1.

The budget of \$288 billion is an increase of \$18 billion over fiscal 2000 and about \$3.5 billion more than the president requested.

The act provides \$75.8 billion to pay a total of 1.382 million active duty personnel and 866,934 members of the reserve components.

The act also provides money for DoD to begin eliminating out-of-pocket housing costs. Currently, the Basic Allowance for Housing covers only about 81 percent of service members' housing costs if they live off base. DoD seeks to cut this 19 percent out-of-pocket expense to 15 percent in fiscal 2001 and to zero by 2005.

Patrols begin

Consolidated Public Affairs

U.S. Forces on Okinawa will conduct courtesy patrols beginning today in Okinawa City, Chatan Town and Ginowan City.

The purpose of the courtesy patrols is to provide assistance, guidance and leadership to U.S. service members on liberty off-base in order to deter and minimize incidents resulting from misconduct.

The courtesy patrols will be conducted on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 p.m. to midnight, and on Sundays when the following Monday is a U.S. holiday. The courtesy patrols will be conducted in appropriate civilian attire.

The courtesy patrols are being implemented with the cooperation of the Okinawa Prefectural Government and the Okinawa Prefectural Police.

Enrollment begins for Marine Corps University's new school year

Consolidated Public Affairs

Marine Corps University will convene its academic year for Command and Staff College, and Amphibious Warfare School Phase I and II Distance Education Program seminar classes for officers Oct 2.

Weekly classes will be offered at most Marine Corps commands across Okinawa, Iwakuni and Korea.

Nonresident CSC and AWS students no longer have to go it alone with giant cardboard boxes containing dozens of thick books. Seminar courses will focus on the Command and Staff and AWS Phase I and II Programs of Instruction, which parallel the resident school. Seminar classes will allow for interaction with fellow classmates and are taught by adjunct faculty, which enhances the students' learning experience,

according to Jim Hopkins, regional coordinator, Marine Corps University's College of Continuing Education.

In an effort to enrich curriculum, guest lecturers and scholars are scheduled to visit students. Classroom guests will include local generals to speak on topics related to the Command and Staff and AWS syllabus.

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Report off-base traffic violations at 645-3423/3887/7441/7442

I MEF generals visit Okinawa

Cpl. Matthew S. Bates

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — Three California-based generals made a pit stop in Okinawa Aug. 24 before heading back to their West Coast commands from an exercise in Korea.

Lieutenant Gen. Michael W. Hagee, commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Maj. Gen. Charles F. Bolden Jr., commanding general, III Marine Aircraft Wing, and Maj. Gen. James T. Conway, commanding general, 1st Marine Division, visited their Marines and Sailors who are here on a six-month temporary assignment as part of the Unit Deployment Program.

The generals thanked the Marines and Sailors for their service and expressed the importance of them being stationed in this region.

“I do strongly believe that we need a U.S. presence out here in the Pacific,” Hagee told Marines from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-466, on UDP here from Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar. “There are situations that could rise up in this area at any time. Our ability to respond to them in a timely manner is crucial.”

The generals also spoke to Marines about their important role as ambassadors for the United States.

“Nobody can represent the Marine Corps and America better than every single one of you,” Bolden said. “But you have to realize that this is a two-edged sword. You can also be the worst single representative if you lose track of the responsibility you bear as ambassadors.”

Bolden, who served as the deputy commander, U.S. Forces, Japan from July, 1998, to July 2000, said problems occur most often when Marines and Sailors’ judgment has been impaired by alcohol. He encouraged Marines to take advantage of the cultural activities available on the island and be active participants in community and human relations projects.

“There are three things that you, as Marines, need to do to be successful,” Bolden said. “Know your own limits, know your job and do the right thing. That means treating each other the way that you would like to be treated, no matter if you’re white, black, red or yellow.”

Each Marine and Sailor was encouraged to keep in touch with their loved ones and take care of each other as family.

For the Marines, the opportunity was one they were glad to have.

“It’s always a good morale booster when leaders take the time to talk with their junior Marines,” said Gunnery Sgt. Dennis Parker, a member of HMH-466 who was pre-



CPL. MATTHEW S. BATES

Lt. Gen. Michael W. Hagee, commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force, listens to a question from a Marine during his tour of the island, Saturday.

sented a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal by Bolden. “It shows that they really are concerned with their welfare.”

While on the island, the generals also toured various Marine Corps installations, such as the Jungle Warfare Training Center Camps Schwab, Courtney and Futenma.

Courtney messhall named Corps’ best place to eat on Oki

Messhall 4328 won local competition, will advance to compete Corpwide

Pfc. Kathy J. Arndt

Combat Correspondent

CAMP COURTNEY — Third Marine Division’s Messhall 4328 was selected Aug. 21 as the best Marine Corps dining facility on Okinawa and will compete for the prestigious Major General W. P. T. Hill Award for honors as the best messhall Corpwide in 2001. The W. T. P. Hill Award will be announced in February.

To advance and compete for the 2001 W. T. P. Hill Award, Messhall 4328, part of the division’s Headquarters Battaion, beat out messhalls from others in the 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Force Service Support Group, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and Marine Corps Base.

It is the messhall’s third nomination for the W. P. T. Hill Award. The messhall won the award in 1999.



PFC. KATHY J. ARNDT

Lance Cpl. Cristian O. Rodriguez (right), food service specialist, and Pfc. Johnny F. West, messman, both of Messhall 4328, serve lunch.

The W. T. P. Hill Award was established in 1985 by the Secretary of the Navy to improve and recognize quality food service in the Navy and Marine Corps, but

Marine and Navy messhalls do not compete against each other. The award recognizes food service excellence by judging key areas in customer service,

restauranturship, cleanliness and management.

Efforts to improve service and quality at the messhall include asking Marines and Sailors who eat there to complete customer surveys, said Gunnery Sgt. Efen Morales, manager, Messhall 4328.

“We have surveys for everyone to fill out and I will even accept e-mails on what the Marines want,” Morales said of their efforts to make improvements. “I try to budget suggestions. And if there is enough money, make it happen.”

Size also makes a difference.

“The messhall is small,” said Lance Cpl. Steven Crowe, messman, Messhall 4328. “We can concentrate more on quality instead of just quantity.”

“I would like Marines and Sailors from other bases to visit our messhall and try some of our fine cuisine and let us know what they think,” Morales said. “We have won it before and we were runner-up last year,” Morales said. “We have taken it up a notch and I believe we are going to win it this year.”

AWS, continued from Page 1

Command and Staff and AWS II classes start in October, AWS I classes start in November.

Consisting of eight satellite campuses in the Continental United States, Hawaii, and the Western Pacific, the seminar courses are part of a global Professional Military Education system.

“Even if you are scheduled to rotate off Okinawa, you can pick up exactly where you left off at your next duty station,” Hopkins said. “That is the advantage of the global system. All the classes are synchronized to the same schedule.”

The newest program to the Marine Corps University global system is AWS Phase I. It is comprised of two courses; Warfighting, and Command and Control.

Administratively, the CCE alleviates the need to use the Marine Corps Institute. The CCE offers a support structure which allows Marines to focus on their studies. Throughout AWS and CSC, Marines will not be burdened

with the traditional administrative paperwork.

“We provide all the necessary administrative services to include MCI database recording, promotion board letters and records management,” Hopkins said. “All this one-on-one service allows us to be exceptionally responsive, competent and accurate. This is in addition to setting up the seminars and providing highly qualified faculty.”

General James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps recently changed the policy regarding PME. His primary changes emphasized that nonresident and resident schools are equal for purposes of promotion and assignment. In addition, the format an officer decides on for his PME, resident or nonresident, is no longer important since the quality of distance education has dramatically improved.

As a result, PME format is not briefed at promotion boards. However, all officers are expected to complete

their required PME as an enhancement for promotion.

“With the recent changes to our distance learning programs, we are reaching an ever-growing population, to the great benefit of the Corps,” Gen. Jones said. “We will continue to build upon our success in this area, endeavoring to provide the advantages of professional military education to the greatest possible number of Marines throughout their careers.

“We will continue to emphasize the role of professional military education, be it resident or distance learning, in our promotion process,” the Commandant said.

Currently, enrollment for the AWS and CSC nonresident seminars is underway. Hopkins urged students to call immediately for enrollment information.

Information is available at the CCE office located on the second floor of Bldg. 5674. Students may also call 645-2230, or e-mail at hopkinsjp@mcbbutler.usmc.mil. MCU’s web site address is <http://mcu.mcbbutler.usmc.mil>.



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Skin cancer a concern in Okinawa

Overexposure to ultraviolet rays could be harmful. Prevention is the best medicine against skin cancer.

Sgt. Jennifer A. Wolf

Combat Correspondent

CAMPLESTER — Officials at the U.S. Naval Hospital here report more than 100 cases of skin cancer have been diagnosed here since Jan. 1, adding to the one million cases the National Cancer Institute says Americans will be diagnosed with by the year’s end.

Skin cancer, the uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells in the skin, is the most common form of cancer in the United States and is rapidly increasing, according to the Center for Disease Control.

The main cause of skin cancer is overexposure to the sun’s ultraviolet rays. Although anyone can develop skin cancer, fair-skinned individuals who burn or freckle easily are most susceptible to it, according to the NCI.

The various types of skin cancer are distinguished by the types of cells affected, according to the American Society for Dermatological Surgery. Basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and malignant melanoma, are the three most commonly diagnosed forms of skin cancer.

Among the three skin cancer types, basal cell cancer is the most common, said Lt. Cmdr. Francis P. Sajben, dermatologist, USNH. It usually appears as a raised, translucent lump or a lesion that does not heal within three weeks. Squamous cell cancer usually appears as a raised bump on the skin with a crusting ulcer in the center. It is usually small and scaling, but can become disfigured. Malignant melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer, starts on normal skin as a small brown or black mark.

“They are sometimes hard to distinguish from ordinary moles,” Sajben said, “About a third develop in existing moles.”

The best way to fight skin cancer is through prevention. Doctors suggest using sunscreen or sun block and avoiding the sun’s harmful rays, especially between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to Sajben.

“If you’re not sure if it’s safe, do the shadow test to make an on the spot UV estimate,” Sajben said, “Just look for your shadow. If you can’t see it at all, dangerous UV rays are reaching you. If your shadow is shorter

than you are, you’re in high UV territory. If it extends way out beyond you, you’re somewhat safer from UVB rays, although UVA rays remain in effect all day, every day.”

In addition to avoiding the sun’s harmful rays, dermatologists recommend a sun block with a Sun Protection Factor of at least 30, according to Sajben.

“Don’t be fooled by very high sun screens,” said Sajben, “For example, a SPF 30 does not give you double the protection of SPF 15; it gives you only slightly more.”

Sunscreens’ and sun blocks’ protective properties weaken as they age, especially when exposed to heat, according to Sajben.

“Chuck out last year’s sunscreen,” Sajben said. Sun protection is even more important for babies, young children and teenagers, according to Sajben.

“The sun can be very harmful to kids under six months. While many pediatric dermatologists agree that sunscreens or blocks can be applied to this age group, children this young should simply be kept out of direct sun as much as possible,” Sajben said. “Two-thirds of sun damage is done before you reach your 15th birthday.”

Tanning beds aren’t any safer than natural sun exposure and should also be avoided, according to Sajben.

“They carry all the risks of natural sunlight. They can also be addictive if you believe you can get the perceived feel-good look-good factor or a fast tan,” Sajben said.

“If you really can’t face being pale on a holiday, there’s a booming industry in excellent fake tanning products,” Sajben said.

If it’s too late for preventative measures and skin cancer has been diagnosed, treatments vary based on the type and how much damage has been inflicted on the body, according to Sajben.

“If a malignant melanoma is diagnosed, the doctor may want to do further tests, including blood tests, x-rays and scans to see if the disease has spread,” Sajben said.

Surgery is often prescribed, according to Sajben. The affected skin is removed with an area of normal-looking skin to ensure no malignant cells have been left behind.

“Provided the melanoma has been caught early enough, there should be no further problems from that site,” said Sajben.

“Chemotherapy is sometimes used to control the disease if it has spread to other parts of the body,” Sajben said, “There is now a melanoma vaccine, but it is still at the experimental stage.”

“The best way to fight skin cancer is through prevention.”

Lt. Cmdr. Francis P. Sajben

Services to collect extensive health data from recruits

Army Staff Sgt. Kathleen T. Rhem

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense medical officials are working on a plan to collect baseline health data from all recruits during their basic training.

The Recruit Assessment Program would collect “comprehensive, extensive medical history and health data” and will compile the information into a computer database, said Navy Capt. Kenneth C. Hyams, director of epidemiology at the Naval Medical Research Center in Silver Spring, Md.

“The data will be accessible through a computer network and available to doctors when they are caring for their patients throughout the patients’ military career,” Hyams said. “It will also be available to Department of Veterans Affairs doctors when individuals leave military service and enter the VA system.”

He said the services currently collect medical information from recruits, but the RAP questionnaire is both more extensive and computerized.

“In the past, most of the information collected has been on paper copies. Often times those paper questionnaires get lost and aren’t available to physicians when they are caring for patients later in their military career,” Hyams said. “It’s very important that we have a life-long medical record that doctors can use.”

All the information wouldn’t be important during a

recruit’s early years in service, but most certainly would be critical as individuals age. For instance, women with a family history of breast cancer could be targeted for earlier preventive screenings, he said.

The initiative came in part from lessons learned after the Gulf War. It was nearly impossible to determine what ailments were service-related because no available database provided a clear picture of veterans’ health before their service in the Gulf.

Currently, a pilot Recruit Assessment Program is being tested at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Ill.; Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; and Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Officials aren’t sure when the program would be implemented DoD-wide.



PFC. KEITH R. MEIKLE

DoD’s plan to collect digital medical history could improve long term treatment.

Film crew visits Okinawa, record holiday greetings

Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin

Combat Correspondent

CAMP BUTLER — A film crew is coming to Okinawa and is looking for Marines, Sailors and family members who wish to send video greetings to their families in the United States.

An Army and Air Force Hometown News Service team is scheduled to visit Camp Foster Sept. 16 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to record service members’ messages to their families for the Holiday Greetings program. The team will film the greetings outside the Globe and Anchor club.

The program, in its 16th year of existence, is open to military personnel and their families who will not be home for the holidays. Those transferring to another assignment before the holidays or who will be home on leave during the holiday season are not eligible for the program. Military members must appear in the greetings with their families. Filming on Sept. 16 is reserved for Marines, Sailors and their family members only.

Once crews complete the filming and production, they will add them to nearly 8,000 others gathered throughout the Pacific, European and Southwest Asia regions and group them by state. Coordinators will release the tapes to more than 2,000 radio, television and cable stations throughout the United States for airing in the service members’ hometowns.

“Most stations create elaborate productions in which they put special graphics around the greetings and air them at selected times from Thanksgiving to New Year’s Day,” said Tom Taylor, chief, Broadcast News Division, Army and Air Force Hometown News Service.

Some of these greetings get national coverage on programs like ABC’s “Good Morning America,” according to Taylor.

The program’s popularity has grown considerably over the years, and it has proven very successful.

“The response to these messages has been phenomenal,” said Army Staff Sgt. Kat Flanagan, the 1999 Pacific Holiday Greetings team chief. “TV programmers are enthusiastic about providing this community service to the families. What a morale boost.”

The program has proven so valuable that Hometown News is implementing a program to collect and distribute holiday greetings for publication in hometown newspapers as well, according to Chad Starr, Hometown News director.

Marines, Sailors and their immediate family members who want to participate in this free program should e-mail their response to Sgt. Pauline L. Franklin, Marine Holiday Greetings coordinator for Okinawa, at franklinpl@mcbbutler.usmc.mil.

Prospective participants must include whether or not they will appear alone or with family members and must choose a one-hour time slot between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. in which they wish to film the greeting. For example, an applicant may choose to film his greeting between 8 and 9 a.m. As space is limited, participants may also request a secondary time slot in case their first choice is no longer available.

Although the greeting only takes a few minutes to video, all participants must be on site at the top of the hour. Once on site, participants must also provide the name, address, telephone number and relationship of a selected family member in the states for notification and release. They may speak to anyone on the taped message, such as friends or fiancées, but they must provide the name of an actual family member.

All service members must appear in uniform — the camouflage utility uniform is acceptable.

Service and family members on Okinawa may not be able to go home for the holidays, but investing a small portion of their time in the Holiday Greetings program may bring them a little closer to loved ones in the festive season ahead.

“It is a neat program because you can surprise your family back home,” said Regina E. Peck, who participated in the program on Okinawa last year. “I hope a lot of people take advantage of the opportunity. It is like sending an extra present home for your family.”



SGT. JOHN G. VANNUCCI

Indonesian curiosity

Curious Indonesian girls wait outside a building in Asem Bagus, Indonesia, to observe a U.S. Navy and Marine Corps medical and dental team during an exercise where civilian locals received free medical and dental checkups. The exercise was conducted during Landing Force Cooperation Afloat Readiness And Training 2000.

Community Briefs

Combined band concert

The Japan Ground Self Defense Force's 1st Combined Brigade Band and the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band is scheduled to hold a combined band concert Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Okinawa Civic Hall.

For more information and directions to the Okinawa Civic Hall contact the III MEF Band at 645-3919.

Turning in transformers

All transformers being turned in by off-base residents must be turned in to the Furnishings Management Office, Bldg. 217, the Accompanied Furnishings Warehouse No. 3 Bldg. 54425 or Kinser Warehouse, Bldg. 300.

Eighteen Civil Engineer Squadron, Eagle Hardware will no longer accept turn-ins and will refer all customers to the areas mentioned above.

Authorized issue quantity is one per household.

Questions can be directed to FMO personnel at 632-6085/634-1625/634-1629.

Base soccer team

A Marine Corps Base soccer team is organizing for future tournaments including the upcoming regional tournament.

For more information, contact Lance Cpl. Pantelakis at pantelakisma@mcbbutler.usmc.mil or 645-4145, or contact Cpl. Barnes at 645-9306.

Policy on medical treatment for visiting relatives

Family members visiting Okinawa can only receive emergency medical treatment for life threatening injuries at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Lester. After the patient's condition has stabilized, the patient will be transferred to a civilian medical facility. The hospital does charge a flat rate for services as Fiscal Year 2000 Department of Defense Title 10, United States Code, section 1095 directs. Non-emergency medical problems can be taken to a Japanese medical facility where payment must be made in yen.

3-on-3 Volleyball Challenge

The USO and AT&T are hosting a three-on-three volleyball challenge at Camp Schwab Oura Wan Beach Monday during the Labor Day holiday from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is no fee to enter. Sign up on site.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes will be awarded. The event will have a DJ, music, free food, games, prizes and more. The event is open to all SOFA status personnel and their families.

For more information, call USO Marketing at 633-4510.

Ecumenical Chorale

The Ecumenical Chorale under the direction of Bien S. P. Panganiban will present G.F. Handel's "Messiah" in early December. Rehearsals are on Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Kadena High School music room starting on Sept. 18.

Interested individuals who would like to join the Chorale may call 645-8432.

Camp Foster Gospel Revival

The Camp Foster Gospel Service will have a fall revival Sept. 13-15. The revival will be held in the Camp Foster Chapel at 7 p.m. each night. The guest speakers will be Chaplain Shelton Murphy of Iwakuni on Sept. 13 and Chaplain Sharrol James of Kadena Chapel on Sept 14.

Everyone is welcome to attend the services.

The Foster Gospel Choir will also be celebrating its anniversary Sept. 16 at the Camp Foster Chapel. The program will begin at 6 p.m. Guest choirs to participate in the celebration include: Mt. Olive M. B. Church, God's Way Love Center, Seventh Day Adventist Church, United M. B. Church and Kadena Chapel One.

For more information contact Chaplain Brenda Bradley-Davila at 645-7486.

To submit a brief ...

The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only. Briefs are run on space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Friday. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit to fit space. Submit briefs by faxing to 645-3803, or send an e-mail to editors@mcbbutler.usmc.mil.

Alcohol-related NJPs III MEF/MCBJ

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for August 20-26.

- Underage drinking

A lance corporal with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$563 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

- Underage drinking

A lance corporal with 7th Communications Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$294 per month for two months and restriction for 60 days.

- Underage drinking

A private first class with 7th Comm. Bn., III MEF, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$502 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

- Underage drinking

A private first class with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$234 per month for one month, restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

- Underage drinking

A private first class with 9th ESB, 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$563 per month for two months, restriction for 60 days.

- Consumption of alcohol prior to duty

A lance corporal with 7th Comm. Bn., III MEF, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of consuming alcohol less than eight hours prior to duty. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$563 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

- Consumption of alcohol prior to duty

A seaman with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of consuming alcohol prior to duty. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$563 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

- Consumption of alcohol prior to duty

A lance corporal with 3rd Med. Bn., 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of consuming alcohol 24 hours prior to a training hike. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$585 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

- Consumption of alcohol prior to duty


A lance corporal with 3rd Med. Bn., 3rd FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of consuming alcohol 24 hours prior to a training hike. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$563 for two months, restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

- Drunkenness

A corporal with 7th Comm. Bn., III MEF, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of drunkenness. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$667 per month for two months, restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

‘Show the flag’ while on liberty, during travel

Sgt. Maj. Robert W. Holub
Marine Forces Pacific Sergeant Major



While I was at the Sergeants Major Symposium this year, a bunch of us were brainstorming ideas on how to re-connect the Marine Corps better with society and “show the flag.” I brought up the topic of wearing our uniforms more while traveling in the Continental United States and while on leave. It is this topic, and my reasons for bringing it up, that I would like to talk about this week.

I remember that when I first came in the Marine Corps in 1971 not travelling in uniform was not an option anyone considered. To my knowledge, because of the existing travel regulations at the time, all members of the Armed Forces were required to travel in uniform. Besides that, as I recall, all of the airlines at the time gave some really great discounts to service members traveling in uniform.

Unfortunately, due to a variety of reasons, not the least of which were the advent of the all-volunteer force and terrorist attacks on airlines, the policy was changed in the mid ’70s. With the changing of those

regulations, fewer and fewer service people opted to wear their uniforms in public places and during travel. The down side of this, in my opinion, was the inability for our countrymen to see service members in uniform in the airports and on the streets of our nation as much as they used to.

Why do I think that is unfortunate? Look at it this way. For most Americans – unless they have a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces – their only contact with the military is what they read in the newspapers or see in the movies or on television. Now while “Saving Private Ryan” and “Rules of Engagement” are very entertaining, do you think they should be the only examples our nation sees of the men and women who are entrusted with their common defense and safety? Do you really think this country should judge the men and women who so faithfully serve this nation by a movie or a television show?

As good as any actor might be in portraying us on the silver screen, when the director says, “Cut,” those actors take off their costumes and go back to being Tom Cruise or Tom Hanks. Real Marines, Sailors, airmen and soldiers live this lifestyle day-in and day-out. For us, it is not an acting job; it is a way of life. And I for one think, “Who better to show our country the real face of its Armed Forces and what’s good about our country and its young people

than real live U.S. Marines?”

Our country is sort of fickle when it comes to making up its mind on many things. I would rather them formulate their opinion based on the real thing than about three actors looking for gold in the deserts of Kuwait. I would rather they hear from a young Marine who has flown off the deck of a naval vessel in the South China Sea in harm’s way than some actor who got a joyride in the back seat of an F-14 and now feels fully qualified to speak about national defense.

By “showing the flag,” traveling more in uniform and wearing your uniforms more on leave, you would be showing our citizens that the real-life Armed Forces really do exist and have a face. You would be re-connecting with the citizens we serve and at the same time you would be a force multiplier for our recruiting service.

And you know what? If nothing else, you would meet a lot of really great people who just would like to meet you and thank you for what you do for our nation.

I have said this many times. I will go on saying it until I am in the “dirt box motel.” It is an honor to be a U.S. Marine and serve this country and to wear this uniform. There are people who would cut off their right arm to be a U.S. Marine, but due to physical problems they may never have that honor. I hardly think that asking our Marines to put their uniforms on a bit more could be considered anything more than being proud to belong to this elite fighting force.

God only gives you so much time to wear this uniform on active duty. Take advantage of it as much as you can. Believe me, the time you have to wear it passes by much too quickly. Our country deserves to see the real deal, not a bunch of actors playing a part.

“Who better to show our country the real face of its Armed Forces and what’s good about our country and its young people than real live U.S. Marines?”
Sgt. Maj. Robert W. Holub

Young Marines, where will you look when its time to fill your leadership toolbox?



Gunnery Sgt. Matt Hevezi
Okinawa Marine managing editor

As a wide-eyed private first class straight from basic training, I was assigned to the 11th Marine Regiment at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The regiment was located at a place called Las Pulgas. Translated from Spanish, my new home was called *the fleas*.

Like it was yesterday, I can clearly recall the first master gunnery sergeant I served with there. He was crusty, wire thin and wrinkled. And he was meaner than a junkyard dog.

His face wore what seemed like a permanent sneer. It could have been a birth defect, but I doubt it. Lord help the Marine who crossed his path; especially on a bad

day. For those who did, it was an instant invite for some curious combination of public humiliation tactics.

He was our senior enlisted leader. Not surprising, most Marines followed his lead. Apparently they must have believed master gunnery sergeants were supposed to act ... irritable and nasty.

Looking back now, I was fortunate to have served with such a hammerhead. His rough, gruff, bite-your-head-off leadership methods actually had a tremendous influence on the development of my own leadership style.

I made a serious promise to myself based on those early experiences. Fear, intimidation and humiliation would never be found in my leadership toolbox should I remain in the Corps and someday become a staff noncommissioned officer. I’ve kept that promise.

I share the story mostly to benefit you junior Marines who will listen. Because

now it’s your turn.

You’ll quickly need to choose and develop your own leadership style. Even before you finish reading this, you could be asked to make key leadership decisions involving Marines junior to you.

I understand your first enlistment is often very frustrating. It’s common, I believe, for most new Marines to get a good case of the *I-ain’t-in-charge-of-nothing blues*.

Don’t let it get you down. It’s the perfect time to think about and plan for your next promotion, next duty station, or next opportunity to

lead your Marines the way *you* believe they should be led.

When the going gets tough, don’t throw up your arms in frustration and quit caring like some do. Strive harder to make your next promotion or get an assignment with more responsibility. Then go out and do it your way. Trust me. Your turn is just around the corner.

I challenge you to re-enlist or take on a more challenging position in your unit. Reach your next rank so you can become the type of leader you want to be. Step up to the plate Marines, and make your Corps better.

“Strive harder to make your next promotion or get an assignment with more responsibility. Then go out and do it your way. Your turn is just around the corner”
Gunnery Sgt. Matt Hevezi

STREET TALK



Cpl. Daniel A. Amador,
MWHS-1, 1st MAW

"Training here is unlike anywhere else. It's a very tough jungle environment."



Lance Cpl. Devin R. Mitchell, SJA, MCB

"Interacting with the Japanese, the environment we train in and the wide range of training available here."



Master Sgt. Milton L. Sinclair, G-3, 1st MAW

"A benefit of training on Okinawa is there is such a wide range of training available here for both ground and air elements."



Sgt. Erik J. Langling, G-1, MCB

"Being able to train in a different environment."

“What is the greatest benefit to training on Okinawa?”

invitation to

I N D O C

Recon: We're looking for a few hard Marines

Pfc. Keith R. Meikle

Combat Correspondent

CAMP SCHWAB — The 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division is looking for qualified Marines who have the drive, determination and guts to make a lateral move into the Reconnaissance Marine Military Occupational Specialty.

The 3rd Recon Bn., 3rd Mar Div will conduct screening Sept. 8 at 1 p.m. at the 3rd Recon Bn. Headquarters, Building 3643 here for Marines wanting to find out if they measure up to recon standards.

Potential lateral movers must fulfill the following requirements prior to attempting the indoctrination: a command endorsement for participation in the screening; a GT score of 105; the ability to attain S-1 swim qualification; a 1st class physical fitness test score; at least two years of active service remaining; be the rank of corporal or below and a U.S. citizen.

"Many of these qualifications are waiverable if you fit what we are looking for, which is strong mental courage," said Gunnery Sgt. Russell J. Belanger, operations chief, 3rd Recon Bn.

The screening process has four phases. Phase one is the recruiting of possible prospects, which is already in progress. The second step is the paper work for the screening and interviews. Phase three is the physical endurance section. The fourth phase is where the Marine, after passing the screening, requests orders for a lateral move into the reconnaissance MOS.

Marines interested in attending the indoctrination need to pass the administrative screening first. Assuming they pass the screening, they must talk to the career planner, who will find out the Military Occupational Specialty Shortage Percentage for the requesting Marine's MOS.

The MOS Shortage Percentage is a percentage that shows the need of Marines for a specific MOS, the higher the percentage the more Marines are needed. If a Marine MOS Shortage Percentage is lower than the recon MOS Shortage Percentage they cannot make the lateral move, according to Belanger.

"It is really up to the needs of the Corps, but not too many MOSs are in need of Marines like we are," Belanger said.

The benefits of being recon are the realistic training and the title of being a recon Marine, according to Belanger.

"You jump off helos, dive in the ocean, kick down doors, shoot live rounds, and you get paid to have all the fun," Belanger said.

"If you don't meet all the requirements I still encourage you to come out and give it your best shot," Belanger said. "You can't keep waiting until the next time because we never know when the next time will be."



LANCE CPL. JOSEPH R. PRICE

Recon candidates are closely watched during the physical testing portion, which includes navigating an obstacle course.



LANCE CPL. JOSEPH R. PRICE

A recon candidate grits his teeth as he strives to pass the physical screening test of recon Marines.



LANCE CPL. JOSEPH R. PRICE

Candidates must complete a long distance run with their rifle and pack.



LANCE CPL. JOSEPH R. PRICE

1st Sgt. Barry E. Morgan, Company B first sergeant, 3rd Recon Bn., leads Marines (above) loaded down with packs and rifles during the physical endurance testing portion of a reconnaissance indoc Apr. 29 at Camp Schwab. The battalion is seeking applicants for its upcoming screening and indoc scheduled for Sept. 8. Marines interested in taking the upcoming recon indoc must contact their unit career planner. At the recon indoc, Marines are pushed to their limits (below) so evaluators can observe how they react under extreme mental and physical stress.



LANCE CPL. JOSEPH R. PRICE

*“ You jump off helos, dive in the ocean,
kick down doors, shoot live rounds, and
you get paid to have all the fun.”*

—Gunnery Sgt. Russell J. Belanger on the daily duties of recon Marines

Managing your money

Free financial workshops help teach service members economic intelligence

Pfc. Keith R. Meikle

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — The Personal Service Center here offers free workshops to assist service members and their families in managing everyday finances.

The center offers service members and their families classes on money management, checkbook management, basic investment, home buying, car buying, credit and debt management.

“Our main mission is to assist service members and their dependents,” said Master Gunnery Sgt. Lorenzo Mills, financial advisor, PSC.

The center’s financial programs help people learn how to manage their funds before there is a problem, according to Mills.

“We try to be proactive in our effort to educate people on what they can do with their money and how they can buy cars and homes intelligently,” Mills said.

The center has six workshops based primarily on financial management support.

The money management workshop is the most popular and most basic of all the workshops. Mills said participants learn skills such as rebuilding credit, creating a budget and how to save money.

Other classes are more specific and are designed to help those looking for answers on specific subjects.

Workshops such as checkbook management and basic investing are designed to educate participants, according to Mills. The courses are designed to teach people how to manage their funds daily, and understand short-term and long-term investments.

Workshops on home buying and car loans were created to help people become more familiar with the two processes.

“We want to try and help with terminology pitfalls,” Mills said.



SGT. NATHANIEL T. GARCIA

The Personal Service Center’s financial management and investment workshops help service members and their families hold on to more of the money they earn.

Participants learn what information and documents they need and what to expect when purchasing a car or a house.

The classes show effective ways to do purchasing homework. Purchasing homework is the process of researching and finding what is available before mak-

ing a big decision, such as buying a house or car, according to Mills.

“The workshops are not on an advanced level, but rather are designed to give people the basics on what to expect when dealing with certain situations,” Mills said. “A little bit of knowledge can go a long way.”

AAFES pricing program rivals stateside competition

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — Shopping overseas can be challenging without stores like Kmart, Wal-Mart, Sears, and J.C. Penney nearby. In an effort to provide competitive pricing, the Army, Air Force Exchange Service will match stateside retail department store prices, including some Internet purchases.

The “We’ll Match It” program is one way for AAFES to ensure that service members’ money stays within the military community.

“It all comes back to them,” said Judy Wiggins, sales merchandising manager, Camp Foster Exchange. “The money service members spend here recycles back through the bowling facilities, restaurants, fitness centers and anything else that could help improve their quality of life.”

The price matching program has existed for approximately 10 years, according to Rez Rahe, operations manager, Camp Foster Exchange.

“I don’t see this program stopping anytime in the distant future,” Rahe said.

In order to take advantage of this program, the customer must bring in a copy of a catalog, advertisement or a printed page from the Internet.

Ads accepted must be from stores such as Sears, J.C. Penney, Spiegel’s, Service Merchandise and Wal-Mart

that have a retail department similar to an exchange.

The goal is to ensure that being on an island doesn’t restrict a customer from finding the best price, according to Rahe.

“We want to make sure that we continue to bring our customers the same quality products at the lowest price possible,” Rahe said.

When a customer cannot find an item in the store, it can be ordered by AAFES. The price-matching program can still be utilized, however, the customer must wait for the item to be shipped.

“Many times it depends on where we have to get the item shipped from,” Wiggins said. “But we always try to use the fastest means possible.”

The program does have exceptions. For example, price matches do not include jewelry, music, books, software and video clubs.

Also, specialty or neighborhood stores and Internet sites where items are sold at wholesale prices cannot be compared.

Presently, price matching only occurs an average of four or five times a month.

“We don’t want the number to get much higher,” Wiggins said. “Our job is to provide the lowest prices, and if 100 people per month come in with lower prices, then we’re not doing our job.”



LANCE CPL. DAMIAN MCGEE

Lori Makela, AAFES customer service representative, Camp Foster Exchange, helps a customer. AAFES officials are striving to be competitive with retail department stores stateside. AAFES price matching is available on Okinawa and includes some online purchases.



LANCE CPL. KIMBERLY S. DOWELL

Determination and a steady drum beat brought the JWTC team to the finish line.

JWTC Marines ride the dragon

Lance Cpl. Kimberly S. Dowell

Combat Correspondent

HIGASHI VILLAGE — A ten Marine team made its way from the Jungle Warfare Training Center to compete in the 23rd Annual Higashi Village Dragon Boat Races Aug. 20.

The team was steered by 1st Lt. Janek Kazmierski, administrative and logistics officer, JWTC, while Lt. Col. Michael Stephens, commanding officer, JWTC, cheered the team from shore.

Before getting into their dragon boat, the troops paused for some advice from their commanding officer and Iha Fumio, the community relations specialist and liaison, Camp Schwab.

“The most important thing to remember about this vessel is it is not a submarine,” Stephens joked.

“Relax and use rhythm to get the boat back to shore,” Fumio said. “We don’t want you paddling back to the States.”

The Marines squinted into the sun as they huddled around their coaches before heading into the Guest List Division competition.

Although the team was defeated by both of the Okinawan teams they raced against, the Marines left the 500-meter event in high-spirits.

“We came out here mostly to have fun and for some community involvement,” said Cpl. Terry D. Lummus, radio operator, JWTC.

Following the dragon boat races, the team looked on as the victors of the competition were awarded a coupon for 35,000-yen worth of roasted pork.

When the races ended, the festivities continued with taiko drummers, Eisa dancing and a fireworks finale.

Okinawan Obon festivals celebrate ancestors return

Lance Cpl. Kimberly S. Dowell

Combat Correspondent

OKINAWA, JAPAN — Red lanterns flicker to the rhythmic thumping as taiko drummers parade through the streets of Okinawa. Men and women dance in town squares as the colorful sheaths of their summer kimono outfits flutter during the bonodori dances.

For one week in mid-July or August, warm summer nights in Japan are filled with the pageantry of Obon festivals. The 2000 season ended Aug. 20 with a flurry of celebration and excitement at the Okinawa City Stadium.

The festivals and traditions of Obon have been a part of Japanese culture since the 7th Century, but U.S. service members stationed here may be wondering what the fuss is all about.

The Obon festivals celebrate the return of dead ancestors’ souls to visit the living.

“Obon is one of the most important cultural events in Okinawa,” said Fumio Iha, community relations specialist and liaison, Camp Schwab. “The traditional Obon observance is based on the common cultural belief that the dead are not completely gone. Ancestral spirits come back to visit their surviving families.”

In Okinawa, the festivals take place during the seventh month of the lunar calendar throughout the Japanese community: usually between mid-July to mid-August.

The Japanese often begin the celebration by lighting fires, praying and making offerings to welcome their loved ones home. Flowers and food are placed at shrines in honor of the returning souls. Fragrant incense tickles noses as it wafts through doorways between the worlds of the dead and the living.

As festivals progress, dancing is added to the festivities. People perform simple, colorful dances known as bonodori. The repetitive steps take the dancers in a circle around a wooden platform guided by the beat of a taiko drummer. Families gather together and exchange ‘ochugen,’ obon gifts.

The celebration comes to an end much like it began, with a flourish of flames.

Vibrant firework displays light up the night sky. The tailed embers that carry the souls back to their resting place replace the red lanterns of greeting.

Marines volunteer to assist Kuwae Preschool in time of need

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Combat Correspondent

CAMP LESTER — Marines are trained to be a force in readiness in everything they do. The Marines of Company B, Headquarters and Services Battalion, Marine Corps Base, proved it true by helping a needy preschool only days before classes started.

More than 40 Marines from the company volunteered Saturday to help take part in a beautification project at Kuwae Preschool.

The Marines did everything from assembling swing sets to hand picking weeds from the playground.

“The Marines went above and beyond what we thought they’d do,” said Sophia Chute, educational director, Kuwae Preschool. “They’re always ready to lend a helping hand and volunteer their time.”

The goal was to clean up the school. For some of the Marines who volunteered, there were added incentives for helping out.

“I came out because I like children,” said Cpl. Shantelle Joiner, supply clerk, Provost Marshal’s Office. “But, we’re all here because things like this help Marines who have families and children who go to this school.”

For many of the Marines, the reasons for volunteering were simple.

“It’s the right thing to do,” said Lance Cpl. Jesse French, installer, Base Telephone, G-6. “We can use chances like these to show that we want to help.”

According to Gunnery Sgt. Scott Pile, company gunnery sergeant, Company B, more Marines would participate in community service events such as these if afforded the opportunity.

“We’re blessed with outstanding Marines that are thirsting for these types of events to take place,” he said. “The more we, as leaders, find for our Marines to participate in, the more they will perform. It’s priceless to be able to spend this type of time with my Marines by getting out there and doing it with them.”

The Marines not only improved the school for those students who will be attending the upcoming year, but also created a more solid bond among themselves, according to Pile.

“Anytime you take a group of Marines out with one common goal and afford them the chance to accomplish that goal, it can do nothing but improve morale,” he said.

The volunteers also participated in the project to help build good relations with the surrounding community.

“Many times the good things aren’t focused on enough,” Chute said. “Marines don’t only cause trouble. They are more than willing to do things like this to make a good name for themselves.”

“We’re just trying to show that Marines can do more than go out and get in trouble,” Pile said.

Overall, the Marines realized the positive effect and influence they would have on the students of Kuwae Preschool, according to Pile.



LANCE CPL. DAMIAN MCGEE

Family member Austin Pile, 7, shows Marine volunteers how he thinks the weeds should be pulled.

“They were extremely proud of the work they had done and what they had accomplished,” Pile said.

According to Pile, the Marines will search out more community service events to participate in. Most importantly, he said, they will be doing it to show how the majority of dedicated Marines behave.

“Hopefully things like this will bring out more of the positive,” Joiner said.



CPL. MATTHEW S. BATES

Herb Gray, senior lineman, listens to the defensive plan during a Samurai practice in preparation for the upcoming season. The Samurai finished last season with the best record in the league and, according to senior Herb Gray, they plan to pick up where they left off. "If we play like we did last year, nobody can beat us," Gray said.



CPL. MATTHEW S. BATES

Head coach Jim Hall talks to the Samurai players during a recent practice in preparation for their upcoming season in the Far East League. Hall said the keys to continuing their success from last season lie in different areas: maintaining the good things from last season; seniors stepping up and taking charge; and aggressive, hard-nosed defense.

Gridiron warriors: Kubasaki Samurai begin season as top squad in Far East League

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — The Kubasaki Samurai, who finished last year's season with the best record in the Far East League, began practice Aug. 19.

The team returned to the field looking forward to maintaining their record from last year, according to Herbert Gray, a senior lineman for Kubasaki.

"We'll be the best team out there," Gray said. "If we play like we did last year, nobody can beat us."

The team, led by head coach Jim Hall, is beginning this season with very specific goals in mind.

"We have to maintain the good things we had last

season," Hall said. "At the same time we have to fix those things that were wrong before."

The team is strongly depending on its veteran players to take charge this year, according to Hall.

"Like any team, we need our seniors to step up and take charge," Hall said.

The team's roster includes six seniors, 10 juniors, and 14 sophomores and 15 freshmen.

The key for the seniors, while taking charge, will be to assist the underclassmen in improving their performance and preparing them to take the graduating seniors positions, according to Gray.

"We have to make sure that when we leave they can step up and perform," Gray said.

The team's first game will be against the Kubasaki Shoguns Sep. 8 at Kubasaki High School.

"Kadena is a good team," Hall said. "We don't take anything for granted when it comes to the teams we play."

Hall said he believes that his aggressive, hard-nosed defense will be able to consistently pressure the offense of other teams.

"A defense carries a team, and ours is no different," Hall said. "We will inevitably rely on our defense to make plays. Only then can our offense come in and finish the job."

The Samurai's schedule includes games against the Kadena Bucs, Kadena Islanders, Kubasaki Shoguns and Ryukyu High School.

Marine Corps Base Storm prepares to tackle Okinawa

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — There's a storm brewing. But it won't be coming from the Pacific. This time it's coming from Camp Foster.

The Marine Corps Base flag football team, the Storm, has begun practicing for its upcoming season that starts in September.

"Flag football is a great stress relief," said Edward Harris, the team's new head coach. "It's a viable outlet in which Marines can let go."

The Storm has clearly dominated flag football for the last few years and is looking to maintain that record. The Storm has won the base championship the last five years consecutively, in addition to being the all-island team the last two years.

However, the Storm is going

through a transitional period with many of its long-term players rotating off the island.

"My goal is to maintain," Harris said. "The team has established a good rapport and a solid following."

Team practices are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. and are open to any Marine who wants to try out.

"We don't need great players," Harris said. "Just players who are willing to play great."

Like any team, the Storm takes to the field with a mission to win, but the primary goal for the coaches is to maintain dedication from their players, according to Edward.

"Even if we didn't have a great season, I'd be happy if we maintained our dedication," said Harris. "But I don't see that happening as long as the team stays dedicated when they come out."



LANCE CPL. DAMIAN MCGEE

Michael Harris, the Storm's previous head coach, draws out a play on a football during four man passing drills in preparation for their season which begins this month. The Marine Corps Base Storm has been the dominant force in island flag football by winning the base championship the last five years in a row, and has been the all-island team for the past two years.



Eve (left) visits and signs autographs for fans at the Camp Foster exchange during a recent performance on Okinawa.

LANCE CPL. DAMIAN MCGEE

Hot acts rock 'The Rock'

Promotions team to bring the hottest local and international performers to 'The Rock'

Lance Cpl. Damian McGee

Combat Correspondent

CAMP FOSTER — Eve, Shang, Mad Lion, Goodie Mob and many others played on Okinawa or soon will thanks to concert promoters Positive Productions Inc., Marine Corps Community Services, and the Power Zone of the Camp Foster exchange.

The shows take serious coordination and planning. There is always the chance that something out of the coordinator's control could go wrong, said George LaGua, entertainment coordinator, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Artists who come on island are chosen many different ways.

The first group of performers comes from what's called the Armed Forces Entertainment Pool. This pool of artists is scheduled for different Department of Defense tours worldwide and is directed out of the Pentagon. The pool has two divisions, the celebrity and non-celebrity.

Popular acts determine the celebrity pool. The non-celebrity groups have to work a little harder to get into the AFE pool, according to LaGua.

"It's really no different than auditioning," LaGua said. "They have a demo or video, and someone decides whether or not they're good enough to tour."

The second group of people are those who are found through private promoters or contacts.

The third group of performers is usually local talent. Some of the local talents come from Okinawa, mainland Ja-

pan and the Philippines.

Once the performers get on island they are provided hotel accommodations, food and other perks from the local production company. Many times it just depends on their contracts with AFE, or whoever represents them, according to LaGua.

"Positive Productions contacted us regarding a recent autograph session with Eve in the store," said Ellen Rutledge, Power Zone manager, Camp Foster exchange. "We agreed to help with some of the costs and that's how we got her here."

The goal of promoters is to have shows for service members and their families where they can have fun and see an act they're familiar with. It is also a chance for some of the stars to do shows they don't always have the opportunity to do because of their schedules.

"This is my first time performing in front of a military crowd and I'm excited," said Eve, a chart topping R&B artist. "I hope they invite me back."

Shows have been successful, according to LaGua.

"The support we get for our shows is overwhelming," said LaGua.

This support is so overwhelming that there is no sign of slowing down any time soon, according to LaGua.

"Some people want more entertainment and we try to do our best," LaGua said. "We try to supply entertainment with everyone from national artists to local bands."

The most important thing, according to all the coordinators, is that the service members enjoy themselves.

"We try to let people know that we're in touch with what's in right now," Rutledge said. "We try to get the people they want to see."

For more information on these or any other shows contact MCCA Entertainment 636-3699.

Gourmet Town serves up music, food inside crater

Gunnery Sgt. Terence R. Peck

Press Chief

CHATAN TOWN — For some in search of a meal here, eating in the mouth of a volcano does not seem strange to them.

Surrounded by the JUSTCO mall across the street and a large Ferris wheel a block away, the Gourmet Town restaurants provide patrons a variety of food choices along with a Hawaiian-like atmosphere.

After having their car valet parked free of charge, customers are greeted by one of the Gourmet Town employees. The outside dining area, located within a man-made crater, contains Victorian patio tables and chairs. Surrounding the crater, tropical trees and tiki torches add to the look of a luau.

In the center of the dining area, a bar is available for customers who desire alcoholic beverages. On top of the bar is a rock formation, which has running water coming from it. The water runs on top of the crater surrounding the dining area.

In the background, music from Britany Spears to Ice Cube pounds from the speakers located in the rear of the dining area. Although the music is loud, conver-

sations can continue at a normal level. A 300-inch screen provides customers music videos from Channel V.

Behind the dining area, a line of restaurants is available.

For customers who desire ribs, collard greens, and macaroni and cheese, Bar-B-Que Heaven is the place for them. The Dessert Shop provides customers with a sweet tooth, homemade cakes and ice cream.

Pizza lovers will find Hi Cheese the perfect place to visit. Ga-N-Ga, provides food connoisseurs with tastes from India. Customers who want to try food closer to home can stop at Kinshoutei for Japanese food.

Tacos, enchiladas and other Mexican favorites are available at Taco De Riki.

Providing customers a variety of food choice was the goal for Riki Matsuyama, the 23-year-old owner of Gourmet Town.

"When I started the business, I wanted people to have choices," Matsuyama said. "If I have just a seafood place, maybe one person would like it, but not the other."

Matsuyama wanted to have a place where couples can choose different foods, but still eat together.

For many customers, it is a good place to eat at a good price.



2ND LT. CARL B. REDDING

The Gourmet Town restaurants located in Chatan Town, provide patrons a variety of food choices along with a Hawaiian-like atmosphere.

"We like it a lot because you have all the different varieties in one spot," said Lew Shore, who lives down the street from the eatery. "And the prices are really good."

For other customers, word-of-mouth brought them to Gourmet Town.

"A friend told me about this place," said Pfc. Benjamin W. Ressler, animal control, Provost Marshal Office, Camp Foster. "It's

in a good location, because you can do other things here too. There's also a good collection of people to meet, too."

Prices for the Gourmet Town restaurants range from 400 to 1700 yen, with a typical dinner for two at Bar-B-Que Heaven costing about 3000 yen. Gourmet Town is located across from JUSTCO mall and across from Camp Lester. For more information, call 098-936-9306.

The Marketplace



Automobiles/ motorcycles

1988 Honda CRX — JCI Dec 00, \$650 OBO. Joe, 645-0792/646-5573.
1986 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Feb 02, \$1,900 OBO. 646-4539.
1988 Honda Accord — JCI Oct 01, \$1,400 OBO. Scott, 622-6608.
1989 Toyota Corolla — JCI Oct 00, \$600. 646-5916.
1988 Honda Civic — JCI April 01, \$1,000 OBO. Carl, 622-6689.
1991 Mazda MX-6 — JCI Jun 02, \$3,000 OBO. 646-4863.
1987 Toyota Celica — Cory Kraemer, 636-5092, or 636-2989 DWH.
1991 Nissan Cefiro — JCI Feb 02, \$2,900 OBO. Carl, 646-3497.
1990 Delica — JCI Feb 02, \$4,500 OBO. 622-8554.
1990 Toyota Crown — JCI Jan 01, \$1,700 OBO. Joe, 646-6927.
1987 Toyota Levin — JCI Aug 01, \$850 OBO. 623-6650.
1991 Nissan Bluebird — JCI Apr 02, \$1,500 OBO. Darren, 645-3162.
1989 Nissan Skyline — JCI Apr 01, \$900 OBO. Charles, 645-8937.
1989 Honda Prelude — JCI Jun 02, \$1,200 OBO. Lloyd, 637-4007.
1990 Nissan Silvia — JCI Aug 02, \$2,300 OBO; **1988 Nissan Cefiro** — JCI Jan 02, \$2,300 OBO. 633-0737.
1988 Honda Civic — JCI Apr 01, \$850 OBO. Jeff, 622-8233 or 623-4218.
1992 Nissan Bluebird — JCI Aug 02, \$2,500. 633-1255 or 633-0975.
1986 Nissan Sunny — Free. Jason, 090-8768-0836 or 622-7548.
1991 Nissan Bluebird — JCI Dec 01, \$1,900. 622-8160.
1990 Honda Civic — JCI Mar 01, \$1,800 OBO. 646-5135.
1993 Honda CR 250 — \$1,200 OBO. Neil, 637-3705 or 637-4504.
1993 Nissan Praire — JCI Aug 02, \$2,695 OBO; **1991 Nissan Pulsar** — JCI Aug 02, \$1,895 OBO; **1990 Toyota Vista** — JCI Aug 02, \$2,095 OBO. 646-3045.
1992 Honda Civic — JCI May 02, \$2,000. 646-3618 or 090-7382-5647.
1991 Toyota Celica — JCI Feb 02, \$3,200. Branden, 625-3972..
1988 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Jan 01, \$1,500 OBO. 633-1186.



Miscellaneous

Misc. — Marinell-EX underwater camera w/ accessories. \$2,500 OBO. Joseph, 637-1880/1110.
Misc. — Orlimar graphite driver, \$150 OBO. Rob, 637-6080.
Misc. — Hewlett Packard graphic calculator w/ manual, \$25 OBO; new Mitsubishi VCR. Ben, 926-1666.
Misc. — Black entertainment center, \$50. 623-4906, or 622-5198.
Scuba gear — Women's Sherwood Luna BCD, \$280; Sherwood regulator set, \$320. Melissa, 926-2184.
Misc. — Technics 5 cd changer, \$100; Technics 85w audio/video receiver w/ remote, \$125. 646-5916.
Crib — Full size wooden baby crib w/ mattress, \$60. 646-8469.
Pet — Rottweiler, 7 month old male, \$500 OBO. 622-8554.
Misc. — Kenwood receiver, \$100 OBO. James, 646-4142.
Lost & Found — Lost at Camp Foster Commissary in August, gold wedding band 2 pc. Reward if found. 646-5642, 645-3500 or Rene, 632-5109.
Misc. — Classic Pooh lamp, mobile and 4-piece crib bed set, cradle, diaper genie, pack-n-play, sleep positioner, safety tub, monitor, JL changing table, portable change pad, Kidco configure gate, battery/electric breastpump, infant 6-in-1 carrier, body pillow, baby clothes, crib toys. Call Jennifer for details, 622-8412.
Misc. — Comforter, \$15; George Foreman Lean Mean Grill Mach, \$55; women's med black leather jacket, \$35; women's med suede leather jacket, \$35; VCR, \$50; 13" TV w/ remote, \$50; wafflemaker, \$40; Oster breadmaker, \$80; two endtables, \$30; hose w/holder, \$25. 622-8412.
Misc. — Mikasa dinnerware, 12 piece place setting Mikasa silk flowers china, \$250 OBO. Cheryl, 645-0926.
Misc. — 5 piece solid oak entertainment cabinet w/wheels, \$1,500 OBO. 646-5400 or 645-0877.
Misc. — Transformers, 1,000 watt, \$60; 2,000 watt, \$85; Carpets: light blue, 9X12, \$25; light blue, 12X15, \$25; red, 9X12, \$50; beige, 9X12, \$25; beige, 12X15, \$25; off white, 9X12, \$30 OBO. 622-8102/5370.



Coming to a theater near you ...

Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice! Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Butler (645-3465)

Fri The Replacements (PG13); 7:00, 10:00
Sat Titan A.E. (PG); 1:00
Sat Big Momma's House (PG13); 4:00
Sat The Replacements (PG13); 7:00, 10:00
Sun Titan A.E. (PG); 1:00
Sun Gladiator (R); 4:00
Sun The Replacements (PG13); 7:30
Mon Big Momma's House (PG13); 7:00
Tue Gladiator (R); 7:00
Wed Big Momma's House (PG13); 7:00
Thu The Cell (R); 7:00

Courtney (622-9616)

Fri Gone In 60 Seconds (PG13); 7:00
Sat Big Mamma's House (PG13); 7:00
Sun The Cell (R); 7:00
Wed Gladiator (R); 7:00

Futenma (636-3890)

Fri Big Momma's House (PG13)
Sat Frequency (PG13)
Sun Perfect Storm (PG13)
Mon Coyote Ugly (PG13)
Wed The Replacements (PG13)

Call Futenma for start times

Hansen (623-4564)

Fri Nutty Professor II (PG13)
Sat Nutty Professor II (PG13)
Sun Held Up (PG13)
Mon Gladiator (R)
Tue Gladiator (R)
Wed Big Mamma's House (PG13)
Thu Big Mamma's House

(PG13)

Call Hansen for start times

Keystone (634-1869)

Fri Coyote Ugly (PG13); 7:00
Sat Dinosaur (PG); 1:00
Sat Gladiator (R); 5:30, 8:30
Sun Dinosaur (PG); 2:00
Sun Road Trip (R); 5:30, 8:30
Mon The Cell (R); 7:00
Tue Big Mamma's House (PG13); 7:00
Wed Big Mamma's House (PG13); 7:00
Thu The Replacements (PG13); 7:00

Kinser (637-2177)

Fri The Cell (R); 7:00
Sat Titan A.E. (PG); 3:00
Sat The Cell (R); 7:00, 11:30
Sun Big Mamma's House (PG13); 7:00
Tue Gladiator (R); 7:00
Wed Titan A.E. (PG); 7:00
Thu Big Mamma's House (PG13); 7:00

Schwab (625-2333)

Fri Stage (PG13)
Sat Frequency (PG13)
Sat Gone In 60 Seconds (PG13)
Sun Frequency (PG13)
Sun Gone In 60 Seconds (PG13)
Mon Dinosaur (PG)
Tue The Cell (R)
Wed The Cell (R)
Thu Screwed (PG)

Call Schwab for start times



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